

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani
Janet Bramley

DATE: December 7, 2001

RE: Adult Outpatient Caseload

The information on trends in statewide utilization of Adult Mental Health Outpatient programs that was distributed on September 14 (www.state.vt.us/dmh/Data/PIPs/2001/pip091401.pdf) indicated that there had been little change in the number of people served by these programs over the past three years. A number of people were surprised that the data did not show a continuing decrease in Adult Outpatient caseloads. In response to questions about that report, we have repeated the analysis using recently revised data submitted by some community agencies. In addition, we examined three-year utilization rates for individual programs. Finally, we calculated per capita utilization rates in order to more fairly compare program utilization in different parts of the state. The attached table and graphs presents the results of this analysis.

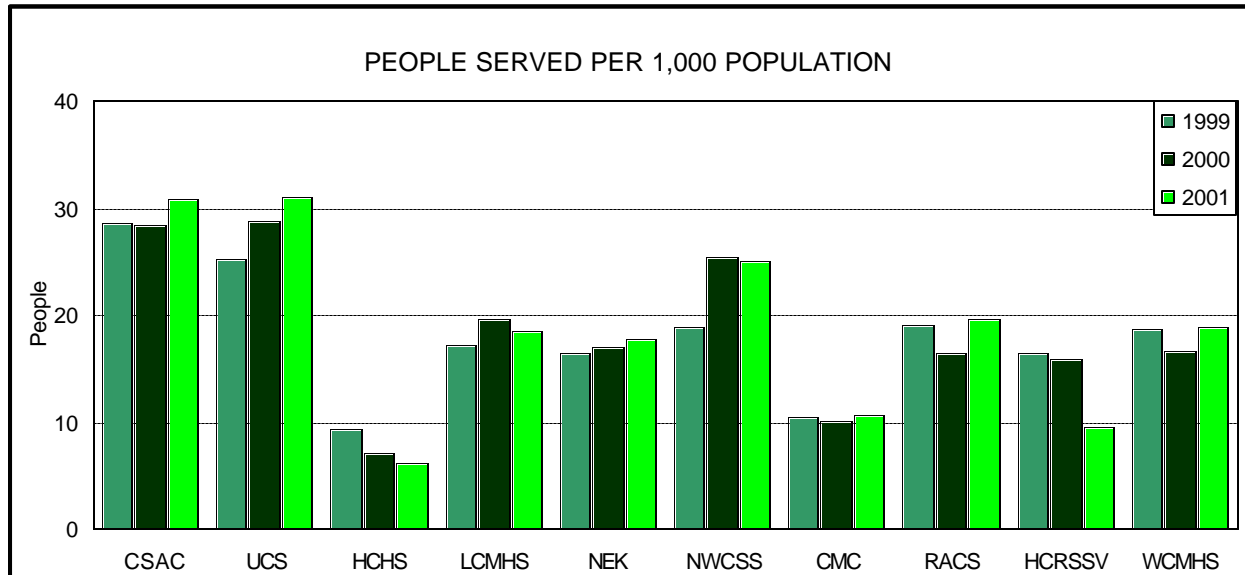
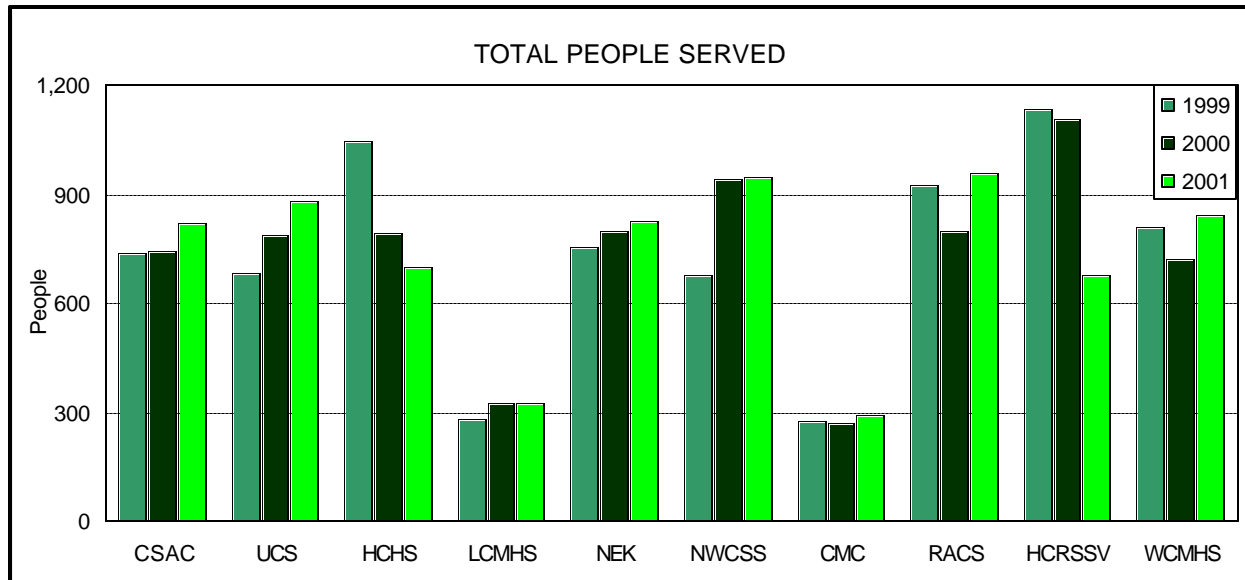
As you will see, Adult Mental Health Outpatient program utilization for the state as a whole was constant, over the past three years, at 16 per 1,000 population (1.6% of all adults residents of the state). This overall rate, however, was the result of a combination of increases and decreases in utilization rates in different parts of the state. In terms of numbers of people served, both Chittenden County and Southeastern Vermont experienced substantial decreases in Adult Outpatient caseloads during this three-year period. The Adult Outpatient caseload in Chittenden County decreased by more than 30% from 1,047 in 1999 to 700 in 2001. The Adult Outpatient caseload in Southeastern Vermont decreased by more than 40% from 1,134 in 1999 to 679 in 2001.

At the same time, other programs experienced substantial growth in their Adult Outpatient caseloads. The Adult Outpatient caseload in Bennington County increased by almost 30% (from 681 to 878) and the Adult Outpatient caseload in Northwestern Vermont increased by 40% (from 679 to 948) during the period under examination.

Adult Mental Health Outpatient programs in some parts of Vermont appear to have had caseload decreases while similar programs in other parts of the state have had substantial caseload increases. We will be very interested in your ideas about why this is so. As always, please address your suggestions to jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us or 802-241-2638.

ADULT OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS

PEOPLE SERVED: TOTAL AND PER 1,000 POPULATION, FY1999-2001



Region/Provider	Adult Population			Total People Served			People Served Per 1,000 Population		
	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
Addison - CSAC	25,913	26,155	26,510	739	741	818	29	28	31
Bennington - UCS	26,998	27,319	28,236	681	787	878	25	29	31
Chittenden - HCHS	111,888	112,863	112,058	1,047	792	700	9	7	6
Lamoille - LCMHS	16,265	16,678	17,588	281	326	327	17	20	19
Northeast - NEK	45,658	46,602	46,668	752	796	827	16	17	18
Northwest - NWCSS	36,009	36,904	37,847	679	940	948	19	25	25
Orange - CMC	26,100	26,579	27,512	273	269	291	10	10	11
Rutland - RACS	48,478	48,495	48,661	923	800	958	19	16	20
Southeast - HCRSSV	69,065	69,475	71,821	1,134	1,108	679	16	16	9
Washington - WCMHS	43,162	43,324	44,403	808	723	842	19	17	19
Total	449,536	454,394	461,304	7,317	7,282	7,268	16	16	16

Number of people served is based on monthly service reports submitted by Vermont's community service providers and includes people assigned to Adult Outpatient Programs. Population figures are for December 31, 2000 based regional tables published by the Vermont Department of Health and the Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont. Adult population includes Vermont residents 18 years and older. Individuals served by more than one agency are counted more than once.